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THE'SIS. *n. f.* [*thēse*, Fr. *thēse*.] A position; something laid down; affirmatively or negatively.
The truth of what you here lay down,
By some example should be shewn.
An honest, but a simple pair,
May serve to make this *thesis* clear. *Prior.*
THE'SMOTHESE. *n. f.* [*thēsmothēse*, Fr. *thēsmothēse*; *thēsmōthēs* and *thēsmōthēs*.] A lawgiver.
THE'URGY. *n. f.* [*thēurgya*.] The power of doing supernatural things by lawful means, as by prayer to God. *Bailey.*
THEW. *n. f.* [*thēw*, Saxon.]
1. Quality; manners; customs; habit of life; form of behaviour.
Home report these happy news,
For well-ye worthy been for worth and gentle *thews*.
From mother's pap I taken was unfit,
And straight deliver'd to a fairy knight,
To be upbrought in gentle *thews* and martial might. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*
2. In *Shakespeare* it seems to signify brawn, or bulk, from the Saxon *thēow*, *the thigh*, or some such meaning.
Nature crescent does not grow alone
In *thews* and bulk; hut, as this temple waxes,
The inward service of the mind and soul
Grows wide withal. *Shakespeare's Hamlet.*
Will you tell me, master Shallow, how to chuse a man?
Care I for the limbs, the *thews*, the stature, bulk and big
semblance of a man? give me the spirit, master Shallow. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*
THE'WED. *adj.* [from *thew*.] Educated; habituated; accustomed.
But he was wife and wary of her will,
And ever held his hand upon his heart;
Yet would not seem so rude, and *thewed* in ill,
As to despise so courteous seeming part. *Fairy Queen, b. ii.*
THEY. *n. f.* in the oblique case *them*, the plural of *he* or *she*. [*thē*, Saxon.]
1. The men; the women; the persons.
They are in a most warlike preparation. *Shak. Coriolanus.*
Why do you keep alone?
Of sorriest fancies your companions making,
Using those thoughts, which should indeed have died
With them *they* think on. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*
The Spaniard
Must now confess, if *they* have any goodness, *Shakespeare's*
The trial just and noble.
They eat on beds of silk and gold,
At ivory tables, or wood fold
Dearer than it. *Benj. Jonson's Cataline.*
They know
To joy the friend and grapple with the foe. *Prior.*
2. Those men; those women; opposed to some others.
Only *they*,
That come to hear a merry play,
Will be deceiv'd. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*
'Tis remarkable, that *they*
Talk most who have the least to say. *Prior.*
3. It is used indefinitely; as the French on *dit*.
There, as *they* say, perpetual night is found
In silence brooding on th' unhappy ground. *Dryden.*
THI'BLE. *n. f.* A slice; a scumner; a spatula.
THICK. *adj.* [*dicce*, Saxon; *dicke*, Dutch; *dyck*, Danish; *thickur*, Islandick.]
1. Not thin.
2. Dense; not rare; gross; crass.
God caus'd the wind to blow, to dry up the abundant
flume of the earth, make the land more firm, and cleanse the
air of *thick* vapours and unwholesome mists. *Raleigh.*
To warm milk pour spirit of nitre; the milk presently
after will become *thicker* than it was. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
3. Not clear; not transparent; muddy; feculent.
Why hast thou lost the fresh blood in thy cheeks,
And given my treasures and my rights of thee,
To *thick* cy'd musing and curs'd melancholy? *Shakespeare.*
A fermentation makes all the wine in the vessel *thick* or
foul; but when that is past, it grows clear of itself. *Temple.*
Encumber'd in the mud, their ears divide
With heavy throaks the *thick* unwieldy tide. *Addison.*
4. Great in circumference; not slender.
My little finger shall be *thicker* than his loins. *1 Kings xii.*
Thou art waxen fat; thou art grown *thick*, covered with
fatness. *Deut. xxxii. 15.*
5. Frequent; in quick succession; with little intermission.
They charged the defendants with their small shot and
Turky arrows as *thick* as hail. *Knolles.*
Favours came *thick* upon him, liker main showers than
sprinkling drops or dews; for the next St. George's day he
was knighted, made gentleman of the king's bed-chamber,
and an annual pension given him. *Watson.*
This being once a week, came too *thick* and too often
about. *Spelman.*

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His pills as *thick* as handgranado's flew,
And where they fell as certainly they flew. *Resceman.*
6. Close; not divided by much space; crowded.
It brought them to a hollow cave,
Amid the *thickest* woods. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*
The people were gathered *thick* together. *Luke xi. 29.*
Not *thicker* billows beat the Libyan main,
Nor *thicker* harvests on rich Hermus rise,
Than stand these troops. *Dryden's Æn.*
He sought secure of fortune as of fame;
Still by new maps the island might be shewn;
Conquests he strew'd where'er he came,
Thick as the galaxy with stars is sown. *Dryden.*
Objects of pain or pleasure do not lie *thick* enough toge-
ther in life to keep the soul in constant action. *Addison.*
7. Not easily nervous; set with things close to each other.
He through a little window cast his sight,
Though *thick* of bars that gave a scanty light. *Dryden.*
The speedy horse
Watch each entrance of the winding wood,
Black was the forest, *thick* with beech it stood. *Dryden.*
Next the proud palace of Salerno stood
A mount of rough ascent, and *thick* with wood. *Dryden.*
Bring it near some *thick*-headed tree. *Mortimer.*
8. Coarse; not thin.
It tasteth a little of the wax, which in a pomegranate, or
some such *thick*-coated fruit, it would not. *Bacon.*
Thick-leaved weeds amongst the grass will need more dry-
ing than ordinary grass. *Mortimer's Haybandy.*
9. Without proper intervals of articulation.
Speaking *thick*, which nature made his blemish,
Became the accents of the valiant,
To seem like him. *Shakespeare's Henry IV.*
THICK. *n. f.* [from the adjective.]
1. The thickest part or time when any thing is thickest.
Achimenes having with a mine suddenly blown up a great
part of the wall of the Spanish station, in the *thick* of the
dust and smog presently entered his men. *Knolles.*
2. *Thick* and *thin*. Whatever is in the way.
Through perils both of wind and limb,
Through *thick* and *thin* she followed him. *Hudibras.*
When first the dawn appears upon his chin,
For a small sum to swear through *thick* and *thin*. *Dryden.*
THICK. *adv.* [It is not always easy to distinguish the adverb
from the adjective.]
1. Frequently; fast.
'Tis some disaster,
Or else he would not fend so *thick*. *Deubant's Sophy.*
I hear the trampling of *thick* beating feet;
This way they move. *Dryden's Don Sebastian.*
2. Closely.
The neighb'ring plain with arms is cover'd o'er;
The vale an iron harvest seems to yield,
Of *thick* sprung lances in a waving field. *Dryden.*
A little plat of ground *thick* sown, is better than a great
field which lies fallow. *Norris's Mychel.*
3. To a great depth.
If you apply it *thick* spread, it will eat to the bone. *Wifem.*
Cato has piercing eyes, and will discern
Our frauds, unless they're cover'd *thick* with art. *Addison.*
4. *Thick* and *threefold*. In quick succession; in great numbers.
They came *thick* and *threefold* for a time, till one expe-
rienced stager discovered the plot. *L'Estrange's Fab.*
To THICKEN. *v. a.* [from *thick*.]
1. To make thick.
2. To make close; to fill up interstices.
Waters evaporated and mounted up into the air, *thicken*
and cool it. *Woodward's Nat. Hist.*
3. To condense; to concreate.
The white of an egg gradually dissolves by heat, exceed-
ing a little the heat of a human body; a greater degree of
heat will *thicken* it into a white, dark-coloured, dry, viscous
mass. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
4. To strengthen; to confirm.
'Tis a shrewd doubt, though it be but a dream;
And this may help to *thicken* other proofs,
That do demonstrate thinly. *Shakespeare's Othello.*
5. To make frequent.
6. To make close or numerous.
To THICKEN. *v. n.*
1. To grow thick.
2. To grow dense or muddy.
Thy lustre *thickens*
When he shines by. *Shakespeare's Ant. and Cleopatra.*
3. To concreate; to be consolidated.
Water slopt gives birth
To grass and plants, and *thickens* into earth. *Prior.*
4. To grow close or numerous.
The press of people *thickens* to the court,
Th' impatient crowd devouring the report.
He saw the crowd *thickening*, and desired to know how
many there were. *Dryden.*
5. To

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5. To grow quick.
The combat *thickens*, like the storm that flies
From westward when the show'ry kids arise,
Or pat'ring hail comes pouring on the main, *Addison.*
When Jupiter descends in harden'd rain.
THICKET. *n. f.* [*diccet*, Saxon.] A close knot or tuft of
trees; a close wood or copse.
I drew you hither,
Into the chiefest *thicket* of the park.
Within a *thicket* I repos'd; and found
Let fall from heav'n a sleep interminate. *Chapman.*
Chus, or any of his, could not in haste creep through
those desert regions, which the length of one hundred and
thirty years after the flood had fortified with *thickets*, and
permitted every bush and briar, reed and tree, to join them-
selves into one main body and forest. *Raleigh.*
How often, from the steep
Of echoing hill, or *thicket*, have we heard
Celestial voices, to the midnight air,
Sole, or responsive, each to other's note,
Singing their great Creator? *Milton.*
My brothers slept to the next *thicket* side
To bring me berries. *Milton.*
Now Leda's twins
Their trembling lances brandish'd at the foe;
Nor had they mis'd, but he to *thickets* fled,
Conceal'd from aiming spears, not perview to the steed. *Dryden.*
I've known young Juba sit before the sun,
To beat the *thicket* where the tyger slept,
Or seek the lion in his dreadful haunts. *Addison's Cato.*
THICKLY. *adv.* [from *thick*.] Deeply; to a great quantity.
Mending cracked receivers, having *thickly* overlaid them
with diachylon, we could not perceive leaks. *Boyle.*
THICKNESS. *n. f.* [from *thick*.]
1. The state of being thick; density.
2. Quantity of matter interposed; space taken up by matter
interposed.
In the darkened room, against the hole at which the light
entered, I could easily see through the whole *thickness* of my
hand the motions of a body placed beyond it. *Boyle.*
3. Quantity laid on quantity to some considerable depth.
Poll a tree, and cover it some *thickness* with clay on the
top, and see what it will put forth. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
4. Consistence; grossness; not rareness; spissitude.
Nitre mingled with water to the *thickness* of honey, and
anoilment on the bud after the vine is cut, it will sprout
forth. *Bacon's Nat. Hist. N. 444.*
Discases imagined to come from the *thickness* of blood,
come often from the contrary cause. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
5. Imperviousness; closeness.
The banks of the river and the *thickness* of the shades drew
into them all the birds of the country. *Addison.*
6. Want of sharpness; want of quickness.
A person found in himself, being at some times subject to
a *thickness* of hearing, the like effect. *Holder.*
What you write is printed in large letters; otherwise be-
tween the weakness of my eyes and *thickness* of hearing, I
should lose the greatest pleasure. *Swift.*
THICK-SCULLED. *adj.* Dull; stupid.
Pleas'd to hear their *thick-scull'd* judges cry,
Well mov'd! oh finely said!
This downright fighting fool, this *thick-scull'd* hero,
This blunt unthinking instrument of death,
With plain dull virtue has outgone my wit. *Dryden.*
THICKSET. *adj.* [*thick* and *set*.] Close planted.
His eye-balls glare with fire, suffus'd with blood,
His neck shoots up a *thicket* thorny wood;
His bristled back a trench impal'd appears,
And stands erected, like a field of spears. *Dryden.*
The world is so *thickset* with the numerous productions of
the creatures, that besides the apparent beauty of things view-
ed by all, there are those secret graces in every part of na-
ture, which some few alone have the skill to discern. *Grew.*
THICKSKIN. *n. f.* [*thick* and *skin*.] A coarse gross man; a
numskul.
The shallow'st *thickskin* of that barren fort,
Who Pyramus preiented in their sport,
Forsook his scene and enter'd in a brake. *Shakespeare.*
THIEF. *n. f.* [*thiuf*, Gothick; *thief*, Saxon; *dief*, Dutch.
It was anciently written *thioef*, and so appeareth to have been
of two syllables; *this* was wont to be taken for *thrift*, so
that *thie* of is he that takes of or from a man his *thie*, that is,
his *thrift* or *means* whereby he *thrives*.]
1. One who takes what belongs to another: the *thief* steals by
secrecy, and the *robber* by violence; but these senses are con-
founded.
Take heed, have open eye; for *thieves* do foot by night.
This he said because he was a *thief*, and had the bag. *John.*
Can you think I owe a *thief* my life,
Because he took it not by lawless force?

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Am I obliged by that t' assist his rapines, *Dryden.*
And to maintain his murders?
2. An exercise in the snuff of a candle.
Their burning lamps the storm ensuing show,
Th' oil sparkles, *thieves* about the snuff do grow. *May.*
THIEF-CATCHER. *n. f.* [*thief* and *catch*.] One whose bu-
siness is to de-
THIEF-LEADER. *n. f.* [*thief* and *lead*.] tect thieves.
THIEF-TAKER. *n. f.* [*thief* and *take*.]
and bring them to justice.
A wolf pass'd by as the *thief-leader* were dragging a fox
to execution. *L'Estrange.*
My ev'nings all I would with sharpers spend,
And make the *thief-catcher* my bosom friend. *Bramston.*
To THIEVE. *v. n.* [from *thief*.] To steal; to practise theft.
THIEVERY. *n. f.* [from *thieve*.]
1. The practice of stealing.
Ne how to scape great punishment and shame,
For their false treason and vile *thievery*. *Spenser.*
Masters, be one of them; 'tis an honourable kind of
thievery. *Shakespeare.*
Do villainy, do, since you profess to do't,
Like workmen; I'll example you with *thievery*. *Shakespeare.*
He makes it a help unto *thievery*; for thieves having a de-
sign upon a house, make a fire at the four corners thereof,
and cast therein the fragments of loadstone, which raiseth
fume. *Brown's Vulg. Errors, b. ii.*
Amongst the Spartans, *thievery* was a practice morally good
and honest. *South.*
2. That which is stolen.
Injurious time now, with a robber's haste,
Crams his rich *thievery* up he knows not how. *Shakespeare.*
THIEVISH. *adj.* [from *thief*.]
1. Given to stealing; practising theft.
What, would'st thou have me go and beg my food?
Or with a bafe and boist'rous sword enforce
A *thievish* living on the common road. *Shakespeare.*
O *thievish* night,
Why should'st thou, but for some felonious end,
In thy dark lantern thus close up the stars,
That nature hung in heav'n, and fill'd their lamps
With everlasting oil, to give due light
To the mist and lonely traveller?
The *thievish* God suspected him, and took
The hind aside, and thus in whispers spoke;
Discover not the theft. *Addison.*
2. Secret; sly.
Four and twenty times the pilot's glass
Hath told the *thievish* minutes how they pass. *Shakespeare.*
THIEVISHLY. *adv.* [from *thievish*.] Like a thief.
They lay not to live by their worke,
But *thievishly* loiter and lurke. *Tusser's Husb.*
THIEVISHNESS. *n. f.* [from *thievish*.] Disposition to steal;
habit of stealing.
THIGH. *n. f.* [*thio*, Saxon; *thio*, Islandick; *die*, Dutch.]
The *thigh* includes all between the buttocks and the knee.
The *thigh* bone is the longest of all the bones in the body:
its fibres are close and hard: it has a cavity in its middle: it
is a little convex and round on its fore-side, but a little hol-
low, with a long and small ridge on its back-side. *Quincy.*
He touched the hollow of his *thigh*, and it was out of
joint. *Gen. xxxii. 25.*
The flesh dissolved, and left the *thigh* bone bare. *Wifem.*
THILK. pronoun. [*thilc*, Saxon.] That same. Obsolete.
I love *thilk* lads: alas, why do I love!
She deigns not my good will, but doth reprove,
And of my rural musick holdeth scorn. *Spenser's Past.*
THILL. *n. f.* [*thille*, Saxon, a piece of timber cut.] The
shafts of a waggon; the arms of wood between which the
last horse is placed.
More easily a waggon may be drawn in rough ways if the
fore wheels were as high as the hinder wheels, and if the
thills were fixed under the axis. *Mortimer's Husb.*
THILL-HORSE. *n. f.* [*thill* and *horse*.] The last horse; the
THILLER. *n. f.* horse that goes between the shafts.
Whole bridle and saddle, whilother and nal,
With collars and harness for *thiller* and al. *Tusser.*
What a beard hast thou got? thou hast got more hair on
thy chin, than Dobbin my *thill* horse has on his tail. *Shak.*
THIMBLE. *n. f.* [This is supposed by *Minshew* to be corrupted
from *thumb bell*.] A metal cover by which women secure their
fingers from the needle when they sew.
Your ladies and pale visag'd maids,
Like Amazons, come tripping after drums;
Their *thimbles* into armed gantlets change,
Their needles to lances. *Shakespeare's King John.*
Examine Venus and the Moon,
Who stole a *thimble* or a spoon. *Hudibras, p. i.*
Veins that run perpendicular to the horizon, have valves
sticking to their sides like so many *thimbles*; which, when
the blood presses back, stop its passage, but are compressed
by the forward motion of the blood. *Cheyne.*
THYME.